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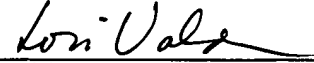
DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 JUL 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : (U.S. National Phase Appln.  
based on PCT/JP02/12496)  
Applicant : Kazuo KOHDA et al  
Filed : Concomitantly herewith  
For : METHOD FOR PRODUCING GAS  
CLATHRATE AND APPARATUS  
THEREFOR  
Docket No. : 04445/HG  
Customer No.: 01933

Express Mail Mailing Label  
No.: EV 443 205 427 US  
Date of Deposit: July 12, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Lori Valdes

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED  
CONCOMITANT WITH APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Please amend the application as follows:

**Amendment to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.